

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Application

Prior to this amendment, claims 1, 4-24 and 27 were pending. Claims 22 and 23 have been amended. Claims 2-3 and 25-26 were previously canceled, claims 1, 4-21, and 24-27 have now been canceled. No claims have been added. Therefore, claims 22 and 23 remain pending for examination. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended and in light of the remarks herein.

Claim Objection

Claims 1 and 19 have been objected to for informalities. Claims 1 and 19 have been canceled thus obviating this objection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 4-5, 8, 11-14, 18, 22 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,092,044 to Inui et al. ("Inui") in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent 5,200,823 to Yoneda ("Yoneda").

Aspects of the claimed invention relate to storing channel information in a memory unit. Specifically, storing a flag which indicates that a selected physical channel includes a digital broadcasting signal and storing the flag which indicates that the VCT information in the digital broadcasting signal cannot be extracted. Furthermore, aspects of the claimed invention relates to re-selecting a physical channel according to the stored channel information, and attempting to extract the VCT information from the physical channel which has the flag that indicates that the selected physical channel includes the digital broadcasting signal. (see claim 22, Applicants' specification at paragraphs [0044]-[0047] and Applicants' Fig. 4).

According to the aspects of the claimed invention described above, even in the case that the VCT information cannot be extracted from the physical channel which includes the

digital broadcasting signal, the channel is still nonetheless placed in the channel list. It is then possible to re-select the channel which includes the digital broadcasting signal and which the VCT information could not be extracted. Subsequently, it is possible to attempt to extract the VCT information. (see claim 22 and Applicants' specification at paragraph [0048]).

Inui at Fig. 4 disclose a channel map. Specifically, Inui discloses that "FIG. 4 is an example of *a channel map stored in the memory* 7. It is assumed that a physical channel (CH NUMBER) 10 ch is a digital channel having a virtual channel (VIRTUAL CH NO.) 12 ch, and sub channels (SUB CH) 1, 2 and 3, and no broadcasting signal exists on the physical channel 12 ch. It is also assumed that these are not registered in the channel map. The second column (DIGITAL/ANALOG) in FIG. 4 *shows the kind or status of the physical channel in the channel map.*" (Inui at col. 5, line 66 - col. 6, line 7; emphasis provided). Yoneda at Fig. 13 also discloses a channel map. Yoneda discloses that "virtual channel refers to *a channel which is selected by a subscriber for viewing and/or listening and whose channel number is displayed on channel display* 308 of front panel 305. These features are illustrated with reference to FIG. 13." (Yoneda at col. 11, ll. 61-66; emphasis provided).

However, both channel maps do not place a channel in the channel list in the case where the VCT information cannot be extracted from the physical channel which includes the digital broadcasting signal. In other words, if the VCT information cannot be extracted in Inui or Yoneda, then the channel is not placed in the channel list, as in claim 22. Hence, both Inui and Yoneda do not teach or suggest the ability to re-select the channel which includes the digital broadcasting signal for which VCT information could not be extracted. Therefore, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 22 is allowable over Inui and Yoneda, individually or when combined. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 22 be withdrawn. Furthermore, claims 1, 4-5, 8, 11-14, 18, and 27 have been cancelled thus obviating the rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 4-5, 8, 11-14, 18, and 27 also be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Inui in view of Yoneda, and further in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0140871 to Piotrowski et al. ("Piotrowski").

Claim 23 depends from independent claim 22, and thus, at least by virtue of its dependence on an allowable base claim, Applicants submit that claim 23 is also allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 23 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(e) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Office Action rejected claims 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by the cited portions of Inui. The Office Action rejected claims 6-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Inui in view of Yoneda and further in view of the cited portions of U.K. Patent Application GB 2,348,330 to Kim ("Kim"). The Office Action rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Inui in view of Yoneda, and further in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent 5,574,495 to Caporizzo ("Caporizzo"). The Office Action rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Inui in view of Yoneda, and further in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent 6,067,332 to Taura et al. ("Taura"). The Office Action rejected claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Inui in view of Yoneda and further in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent 6,137,546 to Shintani et al. ("Shintani"). The Office Action rejected claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Inui in view of Yoneda, and further in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent 5,966,186 to Shigihara et al. ("Shigihara").

Claims 6, 7, 9, 10, 15-17, and 19-21 have been canceled thus obviating these rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

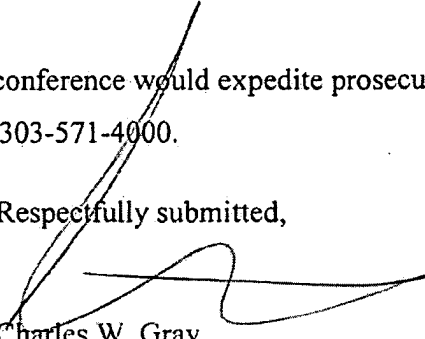
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/626,047
Amdt. dated March 12, 2009
Reply to Office Action of October 14, 2008

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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